



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 57**

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 50

*Senate, March 19, 2008*

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through SEN. HARTLEY of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCESS OF ASSESSMENT OF THE TEACHING OF READING.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1      Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Commissioner of Higher  
2      Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall,  
3      within available appropriations, develop a process of assessment in the  
4      area of reading for candidates for teacher certification who seek an  
5      initial educator certificate with an endorsement that includes  
6      elementary education, early childhood nursery through grade three  
7      education or comprehensive special education. The process of  
8      assessment shall evaluate a candidate's research-based knowledge for  
9      assessing and teaching reading as described in the report by the Early  
10     Reading Success Panel established pursuant to section 10-221j of the  
11     general statutes. The commissioners shall establish a passing score for  
12     the process of assessment. On and after July 1, 2009, the Commissioner  
13     of Education shall require a candidate who seeks certification with  
14     such an endorsement to achieve such score in order to be certified

15 pursuant to section 10-145b of the 2008 supplement to the general  
16 statutes.

17 (b) Not later than December 1, 2008, the Commissioner of Higher  
18 Education shall submit a report on assessments developed pursuant to  
19 subsection (a) of this section to the joint standing committees of the  
20 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher  
21 education and education, in accordance with the provisions of section  
22 11-4a of the general statutes.

23 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-145d of the 2008 supplement to  
24 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
25 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

26 (a) The State Board of Education shall, pursuant to chapter 54, adopt  
27 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of  
28 sections 10-144o, 10-145a to 10-145d, inclusive, 10-145f and 10-146b of  
29 the 2008 supplement to the general statutes. Such regulations shall  
30 provide for (1) the establishment of an appeal panel to review any  
31 decision to deny the issuance of a certificate authorized under said  
32 section 10-145b; (2) the establishment of requirements for subject area  
33 endorsements; (3) the extension of the time to complete requirements  
34 for certificates under said section 10-145b; (4) the establishment of  
35 requirements for administrator and supervisor certificates; (5) the  
36 composition of, and the procedures to be utilized by, the assessment  
37 teams in implementing the beginning educator program; (6)  
38 procedures and criteria for issuing certificates to persons whose  
39 certificates have lapsed or persons with non-public-school or out-of-  
40 state teaching experience; (7) the criteria for defining a major course of  
41 study; (8) a requirement that on and after July 1, 1993, in order to be  
42 eligible to obtain an initial educator certificate with an elementary  
43 endorsement, each person be required to complete a survey course in  
44 United States history comprised of not fewer than three semester  
45 hours; [and] (9) a requirement that on and after July 1, 2004, in order to  
46 be eligible to obtain an initial educator certificate with an early  
47 childhood nursery through grade three or an elementary endorsement,

48 each person be required to complete a comprehensive reading  
49 instruction course comprised of not less than six semester hours; and  
50 (10) a requirement that, on and after July 1, 2009, in order to be eligible  
51 to obtain an initial educator certificate with an early childhood nursery  
52 through grade three endorsement, an elementary endorsement or an  
53 endorsement to teach comprehensive special education, each person be  
54 required to receive a passing score when assessed in the teaching of  
55 reading pursuant to the provisions of section 1 of this act. Such  
56 regulations may provide for exceptions to accommodate specific  
57 certification endorsement areas.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-145d(a)

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

Added language to clarify that assessment is a process.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Higher Ed., Dept.	GF - Cost	150,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

#### **Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill requires the Commissioner of Higher Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, to develop a reading assessment process, within available appropriations, for applicants for an initial teaching certificate with an early childhood through grade 3, elementary, or special education endorsement. Based on the size and scope of the assessment, it is anticipated that the assessment would cost the Department of Higher Education (DHE) up to \$150,000. Funding of \$150,000 would allow DHE to contract for services to complete the assessment. If the assessment were to be completed within available appropriations, and since there are no funds currently dedicated to the assessment, the agency would have to reallocate resources from other purposes dedicated to non-mandated programs.

The bill also requires that as of July 1, 2009 all applicants for an initial teaching certificate with either an early childhood through grade 3, elementary, or special education endorsement pass the reading assessment. The additional requirement is not anticipated to result in an additional cost.

#### **The Out Years**

There are no additional costs in the out years, as the cost is one-time in nature.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 50*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCESS OF ASSESSMENT OF THE TEACHING OF READING.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the higher education commissioner, in consultation with the education commissioner and within available appropriations, to develop a reading assessment process for applicants for an initial teaching certificate with an early childhood through grade 3, elementary, or special education endorsement. The assessment process must evaluate the applicant's research-based knowledge for assessing and teaching reading, based on the Early Reading Success Panel's report. The commissioners must establish a passing score for the assessment process.

The bill requires that, as of July 1, 2009, all applicants for an initial teaching certificate with either an early childhood through grade 3, elementary, or special education endorsement pass the reading assessment. The State Board of Education must include this requirement in its teacher certification regulations.

The bill also requires the higher education commissioner to report to the Higher Education and Education committees by December 1, 2008 on the assessment.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 15 Nay 0 (03/04/2008)